

May
6 April 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

**SUBJECT: Senator Kennedy - Use of Bureau of Public Roads'
Lands Adjacent to Headquarters**

1. This date received a call from Mr. Wendell Pigman, Office of Senator Robert Kennedy, who advised that the National Aquatic Council, supposedly a non-profit corporation having a nation-wide membership, is interested in establishing an indoor Olympic swimming pool. The prime mover for the project was an undesignated attorney with a local D.C. firm. Per Mr. Pigman, Senator Brewster had approached Senator Kennedy to join him in helping the National Aquatic Council in their objective.

2. In surveying available Government land which could be donated for this purpose, the Bureau of Public Roads apparently has suggested that they would donate some 50 acres of their land adjacent to the headquarters site, ten of which would be used for the indoor pool, the remainder as picnic grounds and bridle paths run under the National Capital Parks system.

3. The pool will be the largest such facility on the East Coast and will be of low-level design, and apparently, will have seating capacity for almost 2,000 spectators.

4. Mr. Pigman indicated that the only other land that they have been able to identify suitable for this purpose would be at Hains Point and mentioned that there is a reluctance to make further inroads upon that recreational area. Other plans would involve getting enmeshed in an urban renewal program which would delay construction for several years. Mr. Pigman cited the fact that we have bus service and that buses could also serve the Bureau of Public Roads site, an advantage over any location which could be served only by private cars.

5. Either the Bureau of Public Roads or someone on the Senator's staff felt that they should contact us to obtain our reaction to this plan. Mr. Pigman indicated that the plan is to have Senator Kennedy call Admiral Raborn on this matter and wanted to find out the Agency's general viewpoint before this was done. Mr. Pigman did not indicate whether Senator Kennedy would press the matter with Admiral Raborn if we came back to Mr. Pigman and indicated that we were against the plan. Of course, this would depend upon the intensity of Senator Kennedy's interest in the project.

6. Mr. Pigman was most understanding during the conversation, and he refreshed my memory that we had met earlier. It is believed that he is a Congressional intern from the Federal Government under the American Political Science Association program.

SIGNED

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Office of Legislative Counsel

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